IPM adoption in my hub

Facilitation approach and progress made in IPM adoption

My group

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PRESENTATION OF THE HUB COACH ORGANISATION

The hub is coordinated by INTIA. The Navarra Institute of Agri-food Technologies and Infrastructures (INTIA) is a public body attached to the Department of Rural Development, Environment and Local Administration of the Government of Navarra, Spain.

THE HUB

Our hub consists of 10 arable crop farms, which are located in Valdorba, Navarra. The farms are conventional and cultivate crops such as: wheat, barley, oilseed- rape, vetch, grain beans and peas etc.

OBJECTIVES AND MOTIVATIONS OF THE FARMERS

Trying to reduce and optimize the use of pesticides but maintaining high productivity and profitability

DRIVERS

Farmers are optimising the use of pesticides and improving the management of their farm every year.

BARRIERS

Uncontrolled climate problem (Risk of crop loss)

Fear of not succeeding

IPM challenges and results

IPM Challenges

What were the main IPM challenges?

◦ Hub members learning to practice rotations with different soil management

◦ To raise awareness of IPM techniques and the implication of these to people outside the field (e.g. reduction of pesticides and input optimization)

The hub's results

What progress has the hub made on these challenges ?

◦ Good weed control from the beginning of the season with the recommended techniques to achieve clean fields

What issues still need to be addressed ?

◦ In some cases, the techniques implemented do not work in some plots (poor rooting, high levels of pests or diseases, climatic conditions)

How are the hub farmers going to proceed ?

◦ Continue to test and try out new techniques for the good management of the farm

Key conclusions

We believe that the sharing of successes and failures in the application of different techniques is a key point within the hub.

As well as field visits and each farmer's own experiences, they can serve to encourage others to apply more innovative methods.

Facilitation approaches

Conservation agriculture

What is the issue the hub work on more precisely?

◦ Control of *Lolium perenne.* (Perennial ryegrass)
After many years of cropping, the seed bank of this weed in the soil is considerable.

How did you proceed? What did you do?

◦ Longer rotations are carried out, with alternative crops and the aim is not to repeat cereal after cereal.
◦ No surface tillage because it activates the seeds.

What conclusions can you draw?

◦ The annual seeds of *Lolium* remain on the soil surface. If we manage not to sow them (no surface tillage), the seed bank will decrease

My tips for making it work

◦ To explain and show the development of the technique

◦Periodic visits to plots to see the evolution

Individual facilitation

◦ Field visits

◦Meetings to encourage the introduction of cattle onto the plots

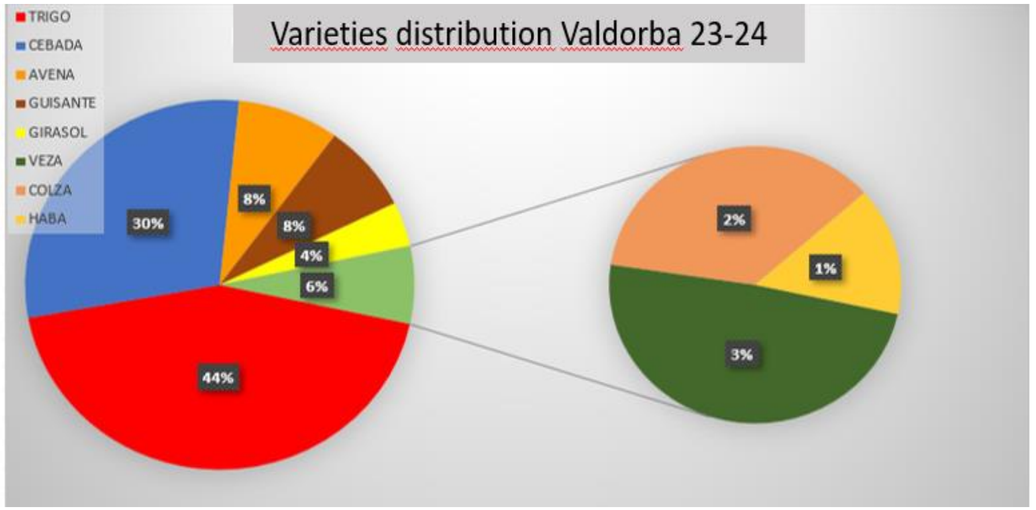
Collective facilitation

◦ Pre- harvest meetings to explain and show the results in-situ

◦Sharing other farmers experiences (peer-to-peer learning)

◦Technical training

IPM adoption & pesticide use



In the picture above, we can see a graph with the distribution of the diferents varieties of crops in the hub. The crops are the following: Wheat, Barley, Oat, Pea, Vetch, Rapesee, Beans, Sunflower.
Longer crop rotations with other alternative crops can be a measure to reduce Lolium pressure in plots.
It has also been seen that not sowing cereal after cereal each season is a highly recommended technique for the reduction of this weed.

"The knowledge regarding IPM and the needs that the farmers have in their farm is increasing. That is the key to reduce problems with pests and weeds

Victor Guillén

"It is necessary to increase the development of efficient and profitable alternative techniques for arable crops

Javier Torrecilla

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